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cc:

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Subject: DOCKETS 98-045N4 AND 00N-0504 INHUMANE FORCED MOLTING OF HENS RESULTING IN

SALMONELLA ENTERIDITIS

Please add my comments to the USDA/FDA proposed Action Plan to Eliminate Salmonella Enteriditis (SE) from egg production per The President's Council on Food Safety:

Forced molting is cruel and inhumane treatment - starving hens for 5-14 days 1. in order to increase egg production.

The result of this inhumane treatment (apart from the obvious suffering it entails) 2. has been proved in USDA studies to be a primary cause of SE because it suppresses the hens' immune system, leaving them easy prey to disease.

I urge both the USDA and FDA to act immediately on behalf of public safety and eliminate this needlessly cruel and risky practice.

Sincerely,

Ms. Gillian M. Hatch Carlsen

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